



Ladies First Program Expands Services

On July 1, the [Ladies First Program](#) started a new funding year from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The program continues to provide free breast and cervical cancer screening and diagnostic services to low income women who remain uninsured. The program also provides heart health screenings and lifestyle programs including Weight Watchers and Curves Complete.

The program has received permission from the CDC to offer some of its activities and services to Medicaid and Health Connect women. It is expanding its patient navigation services to include Medicaid women. This is being done primarily at the community level by funding Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) to navigate Medicaid women to ensure they are up to date on their heart health and breast and cervical cancer screenings, and if necessary, are receiving appropriate diagnostic services.

The program has also received permission to co-enroll women on Health Connect who would otherwise be eligible for the program. Ladies First is able to pay for any co-pays associated with breast or cervical cancer diagnostics that can be a cost barrier for low income women. A further advantage for Health Connect women who become co-enrolled in Ladies First is that they may be eligible for the program's heart health lifestyle programs, which include free memberships to Weight Watchers and Curves Complete.

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